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# Twenty-third progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

## I. Introduction

1. The Security Council, by its resolution 1880 (2009), extended the mandate of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the French Licorne force until 31 January 2010, and requested me to report on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire and on the progress towards achieving the key benchmarks proposed in my report of 8 January 2009 (S/2009/21). The present report covers major developments since my report of 29 September 2009 (S/2009/495) until the end of December 2009. The benchmarks and indicators of progress are set out in annex I to the present report.

## II. Security situation

2. During the period under review, the overall security situation in the country remained stable, despite an upsurge in armed robberies and other criminal activities, particularly in the west. Attacks by bandits armed with assault rifles and machetes resulted in the deaths of 16 persons and contributed to a sense of persistent insecurity in the areas of Duékoué, Guiglo and Bangolo specifically. In addition, following the start of the academic year, clashes between two rival student groups on 21 and 28 September, in Duékoué and Abidjan, respectively, disrupted school registration activities and led to material damage.

## III. Status of implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement

3. Despite the postponement of the first round of the presidential election that was scheduled for 29 November 2009, progress was made in the implementation of identification and election-related tasks provided for in the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, including the publication of the provisional electoral list throughout the country, the launch of the appeals process, and the validation of all major candidates for the presidential election.

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4. Progress in the implementation of the fourth supplementary agreement to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, which relates to disarmament and the reunification of the country, remained limited. However, on 16 November, President Laurent Gbagbo signed several decrees related to the reunification of the defence and security forces, which are expected to contribute to enhancing the security of the electoral process.

## A. Elections

5. In my last report, I indicated that the technical operators, such as the National Statistics Institute and the National Commission for the Supervision of Identification, as well as a contracted private company from France, Sagem, were continuing their efforts to complete the processing of identification and voter registration data. Those operations, which included data from Ivorians living abroad, were completed in September, and the results were presented to President Gbagbo on 6 October. A total of 6,593,783 people were identified, out of which 6,384,253 were registered as voters. However, the identity of 2.7 out of the 6.3 million registered voters remains unconfirmed.

6. Following additional cross-checking of this data with historical records, the Independent Electoral Commission announced on 8 November that a total of 5,300,586 people had been confirmed on the provisional electoral list, while some 1,033,985 names remained to be confirmed. The Independent Electoral Commission indicated that the individuals concerned would have the opportunity to confirm their eligibility during the appeals process.

7. In a statement issued on 11 November, the Independent Electoral Commission announced that the first round of the presidential election scheduled to take place on 29 November 2009 would be postponed as a result of the delays incurred in preparing and publishing the provisional electoral list. The publication of the list was eventually completed on 23 November. The appeals process was subsequently launched on 24 November. The appeals process is expected to be completed in early January 2010. According to UNOCI statistics, by 28 December 2009, out of 396,789 appeals received by local offices of the Independent Electoral Commission, 328,836 had been approved.

8. UNOCI assisted in the distribution of the provisional electoral list to all local electoral commissions through logistical support provided to the Independent Electoral Commission. UNOCI also supported the transportation of electoral materials from Abidjan port to the Independent Electoral Commission warehouses in Abidjan and Yamoussoukro, which was completed on 8 October. In addition, the mission consolidated its forward planning to distribute sensitive and non-sensitive electoral material to local electoral commissions.

9. Meanwhile, UNOCI has stepped up efforts to coordinate election observation activities. On 9 October, the modalities of collaboration between UNOCI and international observer missions were further defined during a meeting of relevant stakeholders, including representatives of the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Electoral Institute of South Africa, the European Union, Japan, the Carter Centre and the National Democratic Institute. This meeting was held following a series of evaluation missions to Côte

d'Ivoire by the African Union, the European Union and Japan. On 29 November, the Carter Centre deployed 10 long-term observers to monitor the appeals process.

10. In the meantime, on 20 November, the Constitutional Council of Côte d'Ivoire validated 14 out of the 20 candidates for the presidential election, including one woman. In keeping with the Pretoria Agreement of 2005, the candidatures of the two main opposition leaders, Henri Konan Bédié of the Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire and Alassane Ouattara of the Rassemblement des républicains, were validated by the Constitutional Council. President Gbagbo's candidature was also validated.

11. Political parties continued to conduct information and sensitization activities in a generally calm environment. The leader of the Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire, Henri Konan Bédié, carried out such campaigns in Abidjan and in the northern part of the country. For his part, the leader of the Rassemblement des républicains party, Alassane Ouattara, conducted sensitization campaigns in the western part of the country and the Zanzan region in the north-east part of the country. Meanwhile, President Gbagbo visited the Worodougou region, in the northern part of the country, from 16 to 19 November in advance of the start of the official electoral campaign.

12. On 3 December, during a meeting of the Permanent Consultative Framework chaired by the Facilitator of the Ivorian peace process, President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso, the Ivorian parties endorsed a new timeline for the implementation of the remaining key stages of the electoral process, including the completion and publication of the final electoral list in January 2010, the distribution of identity and voter cards, and the conduct of the electoral campaign in February 2010. Under this timeline, the first round of the presidential elections would be held by the end of February or beginning of March 2010.

## B. Reunification of the country and security-related issues

13. The fourth supplementary agreement to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, which was signed on 22 December 2008, sets out the modalities for completing the following tasks: (a) the disarmament of the former combatants of the Forces nouvelles and the dismantling of the militias; (b) the reunification of the Ivorian defence and security forces; (c) the restoration of State administration throughout the country, including the *corps préfectoral* (local authorities), the judiciary and the fiscal and customs administration; and (d) the centralization of the treasury.

### Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants and dismantling of militias

14. The national programme for reinsertion and community rehabilitation reported that a total of 4,312 Forces nouvelles combatants had been demobilized following operations carried out in various locations in the northern part of the country from 9 September to 2 October, bringing the total number of demobilized ex-combatants to 16,081. It is estimated, however, that an additional 12,000 Forces nouvelles elements are yet to be demobilized. Of those already demobilized, only a few have benefited from reintegration assistance. The responsible national institutions indicated that Government funding for the demobilization allowances of former

combatants and militias was not forthcoming. Meanwhile, no progress was made in the processes to dismantle pro-Government militias.

15. As noted in my previous report, the continuation of the microprojects programme, which offers tailored reinsertion assistance to former combatants, militias, youth and women affected by the conflict as a stop-gap measure, is of the utmost importance. To date, 526 microprojects have provided reinsertion opportunities to 3,483 beneficiaries. The findings of both an internal and an external programme evaluation that were conducted during the period under review confirm that the microprojects have contributed to creating a generally stable environment. In view of the delays in the implementation of the Government's reintegration programme, and given the need to sustain a secure environment during elections, additional funding is required from partners to support those valuable reinsertion efforts and longer-term reintegration processes.

**Reunification of the Ivorian defence and security forces**

16. Under the fourth supplementary agreement to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, 4,000 Forces nouvelles personnel were to temporarily join the Ivorian police and gendarmerie to provide security for the electoral process. In addition, 5,000 Forces nouvelles personnel were to join the unified army within two years of the signing of the supplementary agreement in December 2008. The implementation of those provisions of the supplementary agreement has been hampered by prolonged negotiations on the harmonization of the ranks of Forces nouvelles personnel and by continued capacity constraints of the Integrated Command Centre, which was created to implement all security-related provisions of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement.

17. On 16 November, President Gbagbo signed several decrees on harmonization of the ranks of Forces nouvelles elements, including the promotion to the rank of Brigadier-General of the Forces nouvelles Chief of Staff, General Soumaila Bakayoko, and the Prime Minister's Military Adviser, Colonel Michel Gueu. Other decrees clarified the status of 3,400 Forces nouvelles personnel who are expected to help secure the electoral process and provided for the incorporation into the Ivorian gendarmerie of 300 out of the 600 Forces nouvelles security auxiliaries trained by UNOCI in 2006. The decree to incorporate the remaining 300 elements into the Ivorian police, however, is yet to be signed. The decree related to the rank of the Forces nouvelles zone commanders is also pending an agreement on their retirement date from the army.

18. While the six mixed brigades established along the former zone of confidence continued to operate despite financial and logistical challenges, the deployment of some 600 mixed security personnel to Bouaké and Abidjan to secure the elections was temporarily suspended. According to a recent assessment made by the Ivorian military, only 2,000 out of the planned 8,000 (4,000 from each of the Forces nouvelles and the Ivorian police and gendarmerie) will be deployed two weeks prior to the elections. On 11 December 2009, a mixed brigade with some 100 elements was inaugurated by the Minister of Defense in Korhogo. The inauguration marked the launch of the first phase in the process of the installation of police stations and mixed brigades with 1,000 elements in 10 other cities in the central, northern and western parts of the country. As indicated in my last report, Forces nouvelles elements serving in those mixed brigades have yet to receive their salaries.

19. During the reporting period, a delegation of the Ivorian working group that was established to address the reform and restructuring of the Ivorian defence and security forces visited Burundi to draw on best practices from that country's experience in reunifying former belligerent forces. Following that visit, a seminar on wider security sector reform was held on 24 and 25 November in Abidjan with support from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Office of the Prime Minister. Participants included the members of the Ivorian defence and security forces and the Forces nouvelles and representatives from Burundi, the Central African Republic, UNOCI and the Security Sector Reform Unit of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations. The findings and recommendations of the seminar are expected to help define efforts to reform and restructure the defence and security forces and feed into draft legislation on military and security issues.

**Restoration of State authority and reunification of the treasury**

20. Local State officials in the northern part of the country continued to experience difficulties in exercising their full authority in view of the uneven deployment of operational units from the Integrated Command Centre and despite the ceremonial transfer of authority from the Forces nouvelles zone commanders to the *corps préfectoral* that was reported earlier. Meanwhile, the process to redeploy State officials continued at a slow pace. During the period under review, the Ministry of Education regularized a total of 1,099 volunteer teachers, while additional support staff were deployed to reinforce préfets and sous-préfets in the north.

21. Progress towards the reunification of the State treasury remained limited. Although efforts were made to restore the operations of Ivorian revenue collection authorities in the northern part of the country, the Forces nouvelles continue to levy and collect taxes and customs revenues. Regional "guichet unique" offices, which co-locate customs, fiscal and registration services, were rehabilitated, equipped and partly staffed in Bouaké, Korhogo and Man. The offices conducted sensitization activities for the business community with a view to re-establishing a reliable taxpayers list. However, no progress was made with regard to the redeployment of customs officials, and all border crossing points in the north remain staffed by Forces nouvelles elements.

22. Some progress was made towards the re-establishment of the judiciary and justice institutions in the north. All 11 courts have officially reopened, although courts in Bouaké and Korhogo continue to lack the required number of personnel to be fully operational. Several judges await their official appointment for deployment throughout the country. As a result, the courts handle primarily administrative matters, such as the issuance of birth and nationality certificates and criminal records. Criminal cases remain largely unprosecuted, one of the reasons being the lack of judicial police officers.

23. Although all 11 prison facilities in the northern part of the country have been rehabilitated, only 5 are operational. They are administered by the Forces nouvelles pending the redeployment of Ivorian penitentiary staff. On 7 December, a senior Forces nouvelles official stated that the Ministry of Justice would redeploy prison staff to the central, northern and western parts of the country in January 2010. UNOCI continued to provide technical advice to the Ministry and facilitated the training of 144 Ivorian penitentiary staff. Meanwhile, overcrowding and dire conditions of prison facilities were persistent in the south.

# IV. Funding for the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement

24. Efforts by the United Nations and the international community to mobilize funds to support the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement continued. The two basket funds established and administered by UNDP to support the electoral process and the national "Programme de sortie de crise", respectively, continued to receive external funding. Out of a total of $48 million earmarked to support the electoral process, some $25.6 million were disbursed in the period from January to December 2009. From the second basket fund, some $13 million out of $18 million had been disbursed as at 31 December 2009, including in support of the redeployment of State administration, the return of internally displaced persons and reinsertion programmes for former combatants. In November, the Peacebuilding Support Office approved an additional allocation of $1.5 million in support of the facilitation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement. In view of the importance of sustaining support to the political facilitation, additional avenues to obtain financial assistance are being explored.

# V. Deployment of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

## A. Military component

25. As at 31 December 2009, the military strength of UNOCI stood at 7,391 personnel, including 7,106 troops, 189 military observers and 96 staff officers, against an authorized ceiling of 7,450 as per Security Council resolution 1880 (2009). There are 96 women in the force. The deployment of an Egyptian engineer company to replace the repatriated French engineering company was completed in December 2009.

26. Meanwhile, UNOCI issued a new military operational order in September 2009, in accordance with its revised military concept of operations and rules of engagement. Furthermore, following the deterioration of the situation in Guinea, UNOCI forces stepped up border monitoring activities, including intensified air and ground patrolling.

27. An integrated security plan for the provision by UNOCI of military and police support to the security of the electoral process was also finalized. In addition, planning arrangements for the temporary reinforcement of UNOCI with troops and assets from the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), as may be needed, in the framework of inter-mission cooperation, are being updated. In a letter dated 19 December, President Gbagbo and the Facilitator, President Compaoré, jointly proposed the deployment, for a limited period of three months, of a military unit of up to 500 troops from Burkina Faso to Côte d'Ivoire as part of UNOCI in order to reinforce security arrangements for the Ivorian presidential elections that are expected to be held by March 2010. Pending the final approval of the arrangement by the Security Council, the Secretariat is evaluating the capabilities of the proposed unit and the feasibility of its rapid deployment.

28. The strength of the French Licorne force remains at 900 troops, deployed primarily in the Abidjan area. By its resolution 1880 (2009), the Security Council extended its authorization for Licorne to provide support to UNOCI until 31 January 2010.

### B. Police component

29. As at 31 December 2009, the police strength of UNOCI stood at 1,138, comprising 394 police officers, including 12 women, as well as 744 officers, in its six formed police units. The police component's authorized strength stands at 1,200 elements. Over the past three months, UNOCI police continued to provide support and advice to the Ivorian police and gendarmerie as well as the Integrated Command Centre, including through enhanced co-location modalities for officers deployed in the north and west of the country.

30. UNOCI continued to develop and implement capacity-building projects on forensics and crowd control. UNOCI has carried out crowd-control training for the Ivorian gendarmerie and police units to equip beneficiaries with the skills required to conduct law enforcement duties in line with international human rights standards.

## VI. Human rights

31. The incidence of serious but isolated human rights violations remained high. A total of 126 attacks committed by unidentified armed individuals resulted in 16 deaths, with only 10 arrests made by the local police. The Fédération estudiantine et scolaire de Côte d'Ivoire continued to use violence and coercion against teachers and students. Strikes by workers in the education sector and in other parts of the civil service who demanded the payment of arrears of benefits and better working conditions hampered the enjoyment of the right to education.

32. In both the northern and southern parts of the country, elements of the defence and security forces subjected civilians to excessive use of force, abduction, illegal arrest and detention, ill-treatment, racketeering and unlawful interference with private property. On 12 September, two supporters of the Rassemblement des républicains, an opposition political party, were abducted in the Yopougon Santé neighbourhood by elements of the Centre de commandement des opérations de sécurité. They were arbitrarily detained at the latter's headquarters in Abidjan for more than a month before being moved to the Abidjan central prison where they are currently being held on suspicion of unspecified offences against State security.

33. UNOCI continued to raise awareness about human rights norms and principles through sensitization activities. It also assisted the Government in the formulation of a five-year programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights. From 23 to 25 September, UNOCI hosted the third consultative meeting of senior representatives of the regional office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in West Africa. An action plan was adopted that addresses major human rights challenges confronting the subregion, including trafficking of persons, women's participation in peace processes, migration, national human rights commissions, truth and reconciliation commissions and the protection of human rights in the electoral process. On 29 October, UNOCI facilitated the establishment

of a platform for the protection of human rights during the electoral process by 30 local human rights organizations. The aim of the platform is to jointly conduct civic education training, monitor human rights violations and ensure that all parties adhere to the code of conduct signed by the political parties and to human rights norms and principles before, during and after the presidential election.

### Gender

34. Pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1820 (2008), 1880 (2009) and 1882 (2009), UNOCI continued to strengthen the capacities of local women's groups and their participation in the electoral process. The mission facilitated various training sessions for leaders of organizations and networks in Abidjan and other regions of the country, targeting more than 200 participants.

35. Meanwhile, sexual and gender-based violence and harmful traditional practices persisted in many parts of the country and remained mostly unpunished. At least 20 cases of rape and gang-rape were reported. Moreover, 21 cases were reported of human trafficking for child labour involving Burkinabé victims, and for sexual exploitation involving Nigerian girls in Abidjan, Odienné and Soubré. In view of this upsurge, UNOCI continued to reach out to national and international partners in the framework of the United Nations campaign to end sexual and gender-based violence.

### Child protection

36. UNOCI continued to mainstream child protection and child rights across the mission in accordance with Security Council resolutions 1261 (1999) and 1460 (2003). A total of 1,035 peacekeeping personnel, including 71 civilians, received a comprehensive briefing on child protection concerns and standards with a special emphasis on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 1612 (2005) and 1882 (2009). Furthermore, UNOCI provided training to 748 national stakeholders, including police officers and community leaders. UNOCI strengthened its dialogue with the defence and security forces on issues pertaining to child rights and sexual violence in the areas under their control. In addition, UNOCI, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and national and international non-governmental organizations jointly advocated with the Ministry for Family, Women and Social Welfare for a reinforced national child protection system.

### HIV/AIDS

37. In partnership with the United Nations Population Fund, UNDP, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS and the Integrated Command Centre, UNOCI continued to implement its joint project to sensitize 290 ex-combatants on HIV/AIDS issues in order to mainstream those issues into the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes. In addition, UNOCI worked with the Ministry for the Fight against AIDS and local non-governmental organizations to sensitize 33 prison inmates on HIV/AIDS issues. UNOCI also sensitized 456 members of its staff on HIV/AIDS prevention and trained 53 peer educators. A total of 575 civilian and uniformed UNOCI staff were offered voluntary confidential counselling and testing services.

## VII. Humanitarian situation

38. Humanitarian activities remained focused on the strategic priorities developed for 2009 by the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Coordination Committee in Côte d'Ivoire, namely, the reinsertion and protection of internally displaced persons, largely in the western part of the country, and malnutrition in the northern part of the country. Accordingly, UNOCI, United Nations agencies and humanitarian partners reinforced their collaboration with local authorities to monitor and support the return and reintegration of internally displaced persons. During the reporting period, 8,754 persons voluntarily returned to their areas of origin in the west, bringing the total of returnees to 88,790 since the voluntary return scheme began in November 2006. The remaining caseload of approximately 32,000 internally displaced persons continued to live with host families, primarily in the departments of Blolequin and Guiglo. In some return areas, land disputes continued to affect prospects for a sustainable socio-economic reintegration.

39. The results of a Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions nutrition survey conducted by the National Nutrition Programme, in collaboration with UNICEF, the World Food Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs in July 2009, showed an improvement in regions affected by acute malnutrition and covered by humanitarian partners. However, chronic malnutrition among children under 5 years of age reached 40 per cent in seven of the eight regions surveyed in the north and west of the country. The in-depth food security survey revealed that 12.6 per cent of rural households are food insecure.

## VIII. Economic recovery

40. On 18 November, the Board of the International Monetary Fund approved the first review of the economic programme for Côte d'Ivoire under the Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility and provided budget support of $57 million. Côte d'Ivoire also benefited from a cancellation by France of its $455 million bilateral debt and a restructuring of its remaining debt service. In addition, following the debt relief obtained from the Paris Club, as indicated in my previous report, the London Club of private creditors agreed on 29 September 2009 to reduce the Ivorian debt by $536 million.

## IX. Media monitoring and public information

41. During the period under review, UNOCI, in partnership with the Ivorian Ministry of Communication and regulatory institutions, pursued its training and sensitization programme for Ivorian media practitioners, focusing on the role of the media and media coverage modalities during the electoral period. At the same time, UNOCI, through its radio station, continued to sensitize the population on the peace process, placing special emphasis on the electoral process and the modalities of participation in the appeals process. The mission also pursued its outreach activities geared towards strengthening social cohesion within and between communities and contributing to a peaceful environment throughout the electoral period.

## X. Personnel conduct and discipline

42. In October 2009, UNOCI received reports of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse committed by some members of one of its military contingents that may have occurred in 2006 and appeared to involve minors. Upon receipt of the allegations, UNOCI immediately dispatched an assessment team to the area where the allegations were reported to have occurred and apprised the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the matter. My zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse explicitly forbids sexual relations with any person under 18 years of age and strongly discourages relations with beneficiaries of assistance. The authorities of the concerned troop-contributing country were informed and were requested to investigate the allegations in accordance with the revised model memorandum of understanding between the United Nations and troop-contributing countries. The personnel against whom the allegations were made have already returned to their country of origin on regular rotation.

43. In addition to having initiated investigation procedures in accordance with United Nations rules and regulations, UNOCI has implemented specific additional measures to enforce compliance with my policy and prevent any reoccurrence of abuse. Meanwhile, the mission continued its public awareness campaign on applicable standards of conduct. Two workshops were organized on the implementation of strategies to prevent and address sexual exploitation and abuse, including through victim assistance, comprising participants from the Government and Ivorian civil society, as well as United Nations personnel and staff of international and national non-governmental organizations.

## XI. Safety and security of personnel

44. Incidents resulting from a fragile security environment, such as urban crime, roadside banditry, extortion, rape and murder, remained prevalent. UNOCI revised its security risk assessment and related mitigating measures, including through an updated internal security plan and related exercises in all areas of deployment, in order to reduce the level of exposure of staff members to direct and indirect threats. The mission will continue to adjust its integrated security plan for the elections in accordance with the arrangements developed by the host country authorities and the Integrated Command Centre, in particular, to secure the electoral process.

## XII. Financial implications

45. The General Assembly, by its resolution 63/289, appropriated the amount of $491.8 million for the maintenance of UNOCI for the period from 1 July 2009 to 30 June 2010. Should the Security Council decide to extend the mandate of UNOCI beyond 31 January 2010, the cost of maintaining the Operation until 30 June 2010 would be limited to the amounts approved by the Assembly. As at 30 November 2009, unpaid assessed contributions to the special account for UNOCI amounted to $78.0 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to $2,063.6 million. Reimbursement of troop costs has been made for the period up to 31 October 2009; contingent-owned equipment costs were also partially reimbursed.

## XIII. Observations

46. Despite the postponement of the presidential election that was scheduled for 29 November, the electoral process has remained on track and the preparations have gathered encouraging momentum. Sustained dialogue and concerted action among the Ivorian parties and institutions facilitated the current progress. I encourage the parties as well as the responsible national institutions to maintain this momentum in order to complete the remaining tasks in a timely manner.

47. The publication of the provisional electoral list constitutes a significant milestone on the road to the election. The progress made so far in processing the appeals is equally encouraging. In keeping with his certification mandate, my Special Representative has publicly endorsed both the provisional electoral list and the procedure followed in compiling it. In this regard, he highlighted the acceptable size and balanced composition of the provisional list in terms of geographical equity and with regard to the inclusion of names collected during identification operations, including the mobile courts and the reconstitution of civil registries. This offers encouraging prospects for the completion of a credible final electoral list. In addition, the Ivorian protagonists demonstrated a spirit of compromise by agr ing to additional data-processing operations to further reduce the number of unconfirmed names on the provisional electoral list. I urge the Independent Electoral Commission and its technical partners to complete the preparation of the final electoral list in the same transparent and credible manner.

48. The implementation of the delicate remaining stages in preparation of the elections will require continued international engagement, including with regard to securing the process. I encourage the Ivorian parties to make headway in deploying mixed brigades throughout the country. UNOCI will continue to support those efforts and is adjusting its internal security planning to match the evolving security requirements.

49. As noted in paragraph 27, I received a letter dated 19 December from President Gbagbo and the Facilitator, President Compaoré, proposing the deployment, for a limited period of three months, of a military unit of up to 500 troops from Burkina Faso to UNOCI. I intend to revert to the Security Council and troop-contributing countries with my recommendations in this regard, including on the status of preparations to temporarily reinforce UNOCI with troops and assets from UNMIL, as may be needed, through inter-mission cooperation. In both instances, the authorization of the Security Council will be required.

50. Beyond the elections, critical challenges remain in relation to the unfinished aspects of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, in particular those relating to the reunification of the country as envisaged in the fourth supplementary agreement. They include the disarmament of former combatants of Forces nouvelles and the dismantling of the militias, the reunification of the Ivorian defence and security forces, the effective redeployment of State administration throughout the country and the centralization of the treasury. While the signing by President Gbagbo of the decrees on the harmonization of rank for Forces nouvelles elements is a positive development, concerted efforts to address outstanding reunification concerns remain crucial. I strongly encourage the Ivorian parties to continue working cooperatively in order to make further progress on those issues. In the meantime, I would like to call on bilateral and multilateral partners to continue to provide funding for the

microproject initiative for the reinsertion of former combatants in Côte d'Ivoire. Continued funding should also be provided by international partners to the political facilitation led by President Compaoré of Burkina Faso.

51. Successful and peaceful elections in the first quarter of 2010 would pave the way for charting the future engagement of the United Nations in Côte d'Ivoire to support the peacebuilding and recovery process. In this regard, the Secretariat intends to dispatch a technical assessment mission to Côte d'Ivoire immediately after the presidential election. It will consult the newly elected Government on the post-election role of the United Nations in line with transition planning arrangements that are well advanced, as well as on appropriate exit arrangements for UNOCI. Options in this regard will be presented in my next report. In the meantime, I recommend that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNOCI for six months, through 31 July 2010.

52. In conclusion, I would like to express my appreciation to my Special Representative for Côte d'Ivoire and all UNOCI military, police and civilian personnel for their continued commitment to supporting the peace process. I am also grateful to the Facilitator of the Ivorian peace process, President Compaoré of Burkina Faso, for his tireless facilitation efforts. Finally, I thank all troop- and police-contributing countries, ECOWAS, the African Union, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, humanitarian organizations and multilateral and bilateral donors, as well as international and local non-governmental organizations, for their important contributions to the return of peace and stability in Côte d'Ivoire.

# Annex I

## Benchmarks and indicators of progress in key areas of the Ouagadougou Agreement and its supplementary agreement

| *Benchmarks* | *Indicators of progress* | *Status of implementation* |
|---|---|---|
| Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of former combatants/ dismantling of the militia | • Profiling and cantonment of 5,000 Forces nouvelles elements at four sites in the north | Partially in progress |
| | • Deployment of 8,000 mixed brigade police and gendarmerie elements under the supervision of the Integrated Command Centre | Partially under way, but at a slow pace |
| | • Storage of weapons by the Integrated Command Centre under the supervision of the Impartial Forces | Partially in progress and partially under negotiation |
| | • Profiling and dismantling of militia groups | Partially completed |
| | • Payment of CFA francs 500,000 (approximately $1,000) demobilization package to former combatants and militias | Still under negotiation |
| Elections | • Identification and voter registration | 30 June 2009 — completed |
| | • Reconstitution of lost or destroyed civil registers | 21 May 2009 — completed |
| | • Provision of security during the electoral process by the Integrated Command Centre, with the support of UNOCI | In progress, with delays |
| | • Data processing and establishment of the provisional electoral list | August-November 2009 — completed |
| | • Submission of candidacies | Completed |
| | • Publication of final list of candidates | Completed |
| | • Settlement of disputes pertaining to voters' registration | November 2009-early January 2010 |

| *Benchmarks* | *Indicators of progress* | *Status of implementation* |
|---|---|---|
| | • Publication of the final electoral list and elaboration of the new electoral map | January 2010 |
| | • Production and distribution of national identity and voters' cards | January-February 2010 |
| | • Preparation of the 10,818 voting sites, including transportation of sensitive and non-sensitive electoral cargo to the sites | February 2010 |
| | • Electoral campaign | February 2010 |
| | • Polling and announcement of election results | February-March 2010 |
| Complete restoration of State authority | • Effective and complete redeployment of the corps préfectoral | Partially in progress |
| | • Transfer of authority from the zone commanders to the *corps préfectoral* | Partially in progress |
| | • Centralization of the treasury in the north | Partially in progress |
| | • Deployment of mixed police and gendarmerie units in the north | Partially in progress and partially under negotiation |
| | • Deployment of magistrates and court clerks, supported by the judicial police, expected to play a role in adjudicating electoral disputes and civil law matters | Partially in progress and partially under negotiation |
| | • Deployment of corrections officers and prison directors | Partially in progress and partially under negotiation |
| | • Deployment of other civil servants, including agents in line ministries | Under way, but at a slow pace |
| Commencement of security sector reform | • Negotiations on reunification issues | Partially in progress |
| | • Adoption of all relevant decrees governing the reunification of the two armies | In appreciable progress |

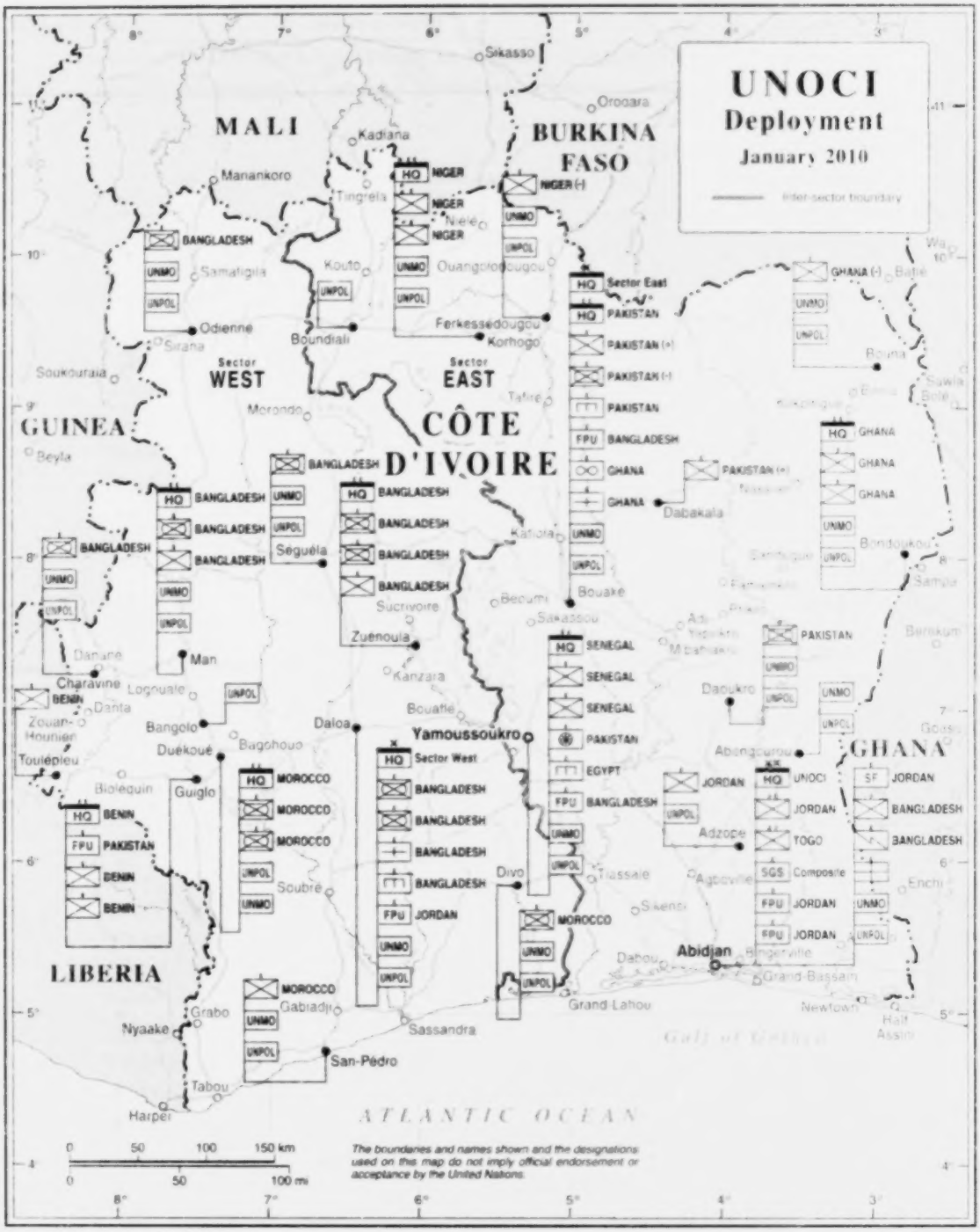
| Benchmarks | Indicators of progress | Status of implementation |
|---|---|---|
| | • Full operational capacity of the Integrated Command Centre | Partially under way, but at a slow pace |
| | • Integration of Forces nouvelles elements recruited in 2001 into the new army | Partially in progress |
| | • Deployment of mixed police and gendarmerie units for securing the electoral process | Still in the planning stage |

# Annex II

## United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire: military and police strength as at 31 December 2009

| | *Military component* | | | | *Police components* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Country* | *Military observers* | *Staff officers* | *Troops* | *Total* | *Formed police units* | *Civilian police* |
| Argentina | | | | | | 3 |
| Bangladesh | 14 | 10 | 2 071 | 2 095 | 250 | |
| Benin | 8 | 8 | 420 | 436 | | 43 |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| Brazil | 3 | 3 | | 6 | | |
| Burundi | | | | | | 18 |
| Cameroon | | | | | | 49 |
| Canada | | | | | | 4 |
| Central African Republic | | | | | | 9 |
| Chad | 3 | 1 | | 4 | | 26 |
| China | 7 | | | 7 | | |
| Djibouti | | | | | | 50 |
| Ecuador | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| Egypt | | 1 | 175 | 176 | | |
| El Salvador | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| Ethiopia | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| France | 2 | 8 | | 10 | | 11 |
| Ghana | 6 | 8 | 534 | 548 | | 15 |
| Guatemala | 5 | | | 5 | | |
| Guinea | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| India | 8 | | | 8 | | |
| Ireland | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| Jordan | 7 | 12 | 1 049 | 1 068 | 369 | 12 |
| Morocco | | 3 | 723 | 726 | | |
| Namibia | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| Nepal | 3 | 1 | | 4 | | |
| Niger | 5 | 4 | 382 | 391 | | 55 |
| Nigeria | 6 | | | 6 | | |
| Pakistan | 12 | 11 | 1 122 | 1 145 | 125 | |
| Paraguay | 8 | 2 | | 10 | | |
| Peru | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| Philippines | 4 | 3 | | 7 | | |
| Poland | 5 | | | 5 | | |
| Republic of Korea | 2 | | | 2 | | |

| Country | Military component | | | | Police components | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Military observers | Staff officers | Troops | Total | Formed police units | Civilian police |
| Republic of Moldova | 4 | | | 4 | | |
| Romania | 7 | | | 7 | | |
| Russian Federation | 10 | | | 10 | | |
| Rwanda | | | | | | 3 |
| Senegal | 12 | 6 | 321 | 339 | | 47 |
| Serbia | 3 | | | 3 | | |
| Switzerland | | | | | | 7 |
| Togo | 7 | 6 | 309 | 322 | | 17 |
| Tunisia | 6 | 4 | | 10 | | |
| Turkey | | | | | | 15 |
| Ukraine | | | | | | 4 |
| Uruguay | 2 | | | 2 | | 3 |
| Uganda | | 2 | | 2 | | |
| United Republic of Tanzania | | 2 | | 2 | | |
| Yemen | 8 | 1 | | 9 | | 3 |
| Zambia | 2 | | | 2 | | |
| Zimbabwe | 1 | | | 1 | | |
| **Total** | **189** | **96** | **7 106** | **7 391 (Female-96)** | **744** | **394 (Female-12)** |

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